

Serial No. 09/478,313
Art Unit No. 2141

LISTING OF CLAIMS

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1. (currently amended) A method for providing common data from a first source entity to a second entity, wherein said second entity is to perform processing on the common data at the request of said first source entity by at least one of a plurality of different service applications at said second entity using invocation-specific data, comprising the steps of :

transferring the common data from the first source entity to be stored at the second entity for subsequent processing on said common data by at least one of said plurality of different service applications;

storing the common data as stored data at said second entity;

associating a data handle to the stored data, wherein said first and said second entity each are aware of the handle; and

Serial No. 09/478,313

Art Unit No. 2141

invoking at least one service on said common data by using said data handle and invocation-specific data to invoke processing on that common data by at least one of said plurality of different service applications.

C1
Sub
D1
2. (original) The method of Claim 1 further comprising storing the data handle with the stored data.

3. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein said transferring and said invoking are done simultaneously and wherein said method further comprises invoking at least one successive service on said common data by using said data handle after said storing and associating steps.

4. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein the first entity invokes the at least one service by providing at least service

Serial No. 09/478,313

Art Unit No. 2141

invocation-specific data and said data handle
to said second entity.

C/ 5. (previously presented) The method of
Claim 1 wherein said first entity invokes a
plurality of services on said common data by
transferring a composite service invocation to
said second entity.

Sub D1 7 6. (original) The method of Claim 1 wherein
said associating of the handle is conducted at
the first entity and wherein the handle is
transferred to the second entity.

7. (previously presented) The method of Claim
1 wherein the associating of the handle is
conducted at the second entity and wherein the
handle is overtly communicated from the second
to the first entity.

8. (original) The method of Claim 1 wherein
said associating of the handle is performed by

Serial No. 09/478,313

Art Unit No. 2141

a third entity and communicated to said first and said second entity.

C/ 9. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein said associating of a handle is performed implicitly by the transfer of said common data.

Sub 10. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1 further comprising transforming said common data from a first representation to a second representation.

11. (original) The method of Claim 3 wherein said at least one service comprises data transfer across a network.

12. (previously presented) The method of Claim 3 wherein said at least one service comprises encryption of said common data.

Serial No. 09/478,313

Art Unit No. 2141

13. (original) The method of Claim 4 wherein said at least one service comprises file I/O by the second entity.

14. (original) The method of Claim 4 wherein the second entity comprises a kernel and wherein the service is provided by the second entity.

15. (currently amended) A system for providing data handling comprising:

a first source entity having first common data, said first source entity including a transmitting component for transmitting at least said first common data to a second entity and for requesting storage of said common data as stored data and an invocation component for generating at least one service invocation comprising a data handle identifying said stored data and service invocation-specific data and for transferring said at least one service invocation to said second entity;

Serial No. 09/478,313

Art Unit No. 2141

C/ Sub 7
a second entity for storing said common data transmitted from said first source entity as stored data, for receiving said at least one service invocation, for locating common data on which to perform at least one service based on said data handle, and for performing at least one service on said common data by at least one of a plurality of different service applications at said second entity processing said common data; and

at least one data handle component for associating a data handle to the stored data and for communicating said handle to said first and said second entity.

16. (previously presented) The system of Claim 15 wherein said invocation component generates a composite service invocation comprising said data handle and service invocation information

Serial No. 09/478,313

Art Unit No. 2141

for a plurality of services to be performed using said common data.

17. (original) The system of Claim 15 wherein said at least one data handle component comprises a component of said first entity.

C1
Sub
D1 7
18. (original) The system of Claim 15 wherein said at least one data handle component comprises a component of said second entity.

19. (original) The system of Claim 15 wherein said first entity is located in a separate protection domain from said second entity.

20. (currently amended) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for providing common data from a first source entity to a second entity, wherein said second entity is to perform processing by at least one of a

Serial No. 09/478,313

Art Unit No. 2141

plurality of different service applications at
said second entity on the common data at the
request of said first source entity using
invocation-specific data, comprising the steps
of :

C/ Sub 7
transferring the common data from the first
source entity to be stored at the second entity
for subsequent processing on said common data
by at least one of said plurality of different
service applications;

storing the common data as stored data at
said second entity;

associating a data handle to the stored
data, wherein said first and said second entity
each are aware of the handle; and

invoking at least one service on said
common data by using said data handle and
invocation-specific data to invoke processing
on that common data by at least one of said
plurality of different service applications.